## Abstract of the Disclosure

A method of manufacturing a stamper/imprinter for use in patterning of a recording medium, comprises sequential steps of:

(a) providing a substrate/workpiece comprising:

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- (i) a topographical pattern formed in a portion of a surface of the substrate/workpiece, the pattern defining a periphery; and
- (ii) an alignment mark formed in another portion of the surface of surrounding the periphery;
- (b) forming an opaque protective film overlying the entirety of the 10 surface;
  - (c) removing a peripheral portion of the protective film to expose the alignment mark;
  - (d) removing selected portions of the substrate/workpiece while utilizing the alignment mark for accurate alignment during the removal process; and
    - (e) removing remaining portions of the protective film prior to use.